

THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHISM

everything will be settled peaceably."¹ Urban had previously sent the three other Italians—Corsini, Brossano, and Orsini—to Anagni to assure the cardinals of his good intentions, " offering them many favours and advantages for themselves and their kin, and to do more for them than any Roman Pontiff had ever done." In public, the French cardinals professed themselves astonished that Urban should give credit to such reports about their intentions ; but, in private, they told their Italian colleagues that they regarded the Apostolic See as vacant, and urged them to stay with them. The three, however, returned to Urban, without having effected anything.² For a while, the cardinals continued to write to Urban as Pope and to treat him as such ; but this was only a device to gain time. At the summons of the chamberlain, Pierre de Cros, the Breton and Gascon mercenaries under Bernardon de la Salle marched up from Viterbo to Anagni for the defence of the Sacred College, passing within sight of Rome on their way. At the Ponte Salario, on July 16, the forces of the Roman Republic attempted to dispute their passage, but were routed with loss of several hundreds killed. The infuriated Roman populace retaliated by a massacre of all the foreign priests and laymen who fell into their hands. The cardinals now openly declared that the election of Urban was null and void, because of the compulsion of the Romans, and, on July 20, summoned their Italian colleagues to join them at Anagni within five days. From Tivoli, on July 27, Marsile d'Inghen, who was representing the interests of the University of Paris at the papal court, wrote to the rector and heads of the University that a schism in the Church was imminent, and asked for instructions as to what he was to do under these circumstances.⁸

¹ Despatch of June 24. Pastor, *Geschichte*, I. doc. 12. The deposition of Pierre de Cros, Gayet, doc. 23, shows that the cardinals had hoped to entice Urban to Anagni in order to make him their prisoner.

² Cardinal Corsini's addition to the *casus* of the three Italian cardinals. **Gayet**, doc. 27. **Cf.** the report of the Bishop of Viterbo, Pastor, *Acta Inejita*, doc. 3.

⁸ Du Boulay, IV. pp. 466, 467. Cf. Valois, I. p. 76 ; Gayet, II. p. 25. The letter from the foreign cardinals to the Italians is in Raynaldus, vii. p 328.